

## TOBACCO IN JAPAN PRICES ADVANCED

### Government Monopoly Will Pay More for Leaf to Encourage Home Cultivation.

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 15.—Consul-General Miller sends to the Department of Commerce and Labor from Yokohama the news that the tobacco monopoly of Japan is about to make an advance of 10 per cent. in the price of tobacco, a fact of possible importance to tobacco growers generally. Consul Miller incloses with his report the following excerpt from a Japanese newspaper, which outlines the situation:

"The profit for the thirty-ninth fiscal year, which closed at the end of last month, amounted to \$1,525,000 in gold, or about \$1,200,000 in silver. This is an advance of 10 per cent. in the price of tobacco, a fact of possible importance to tobacco growers generally. Consul Miller incloses with his report the following excerpt from a Japanese newspaper, which outlines the situation:

## OBJECT LESSONS FROM GREAT FIRES

(Continued from First Page.)

ing will be guilty of a great crime. Captain John Stephen Sewell says: "The Baltimore fire and the San Francisco fire, as well as many other fires and fire tests, have proven quite conclusively that commercial methods of fireproofing are inadequate to stand any real test. In the majority of cases, the steel work is fairly well protected, but the number of failures is sufficiently great to show that the factor of safety against fire is not by any means what it should be."

"It seems highly improbable that earthquakes will ever be much more severe than the one in San Francisco. There is no doubt that that city can be rebuilt so that, although it will suffer damage from earthquakes, this damage will not be at all fatal, and the city will not burn up as the result of it."

General Alarm Sounded. The experts maintain that the defects in the so-called fireproof buildings are not confined to San Francisco, Baltimore and Chicago, where there have been great conflagrations, but are general to the big cities throughout the country.

A warning to the entire United States is given in the following from Mr. Humphrey:

"The defects of construction, which are so strongly condemned by reason of their failure in San Francisco are no worse than those generally practiced throughout the United States. The same defects are common, and it is evident that the same results would follow an earthquake of equal intensity in another part of the country."

A moment's consideration will show that the loss of life and property in New York, for example, under similar conditions, would be enormous. The damage to property in San Francisco is estimated at \$250,000,000, but this sum, large as it is, is exceeded by the total annual expenditures for new construction alone in New York.

"In three days the tremendous area of over 2,500 acres was burned, destroying entirely 450 city blocks, and in part, 32 blocks. Of this 214 acres comprised the congested districts, on which there was \$250,000,000 insurance, probably representing a value of at least \$500,000,000."

"In the Baltimore fire, 1,312 buildings were destroyed, having an assessed value of \$12,500,000. In two years these burned buildings were replaced by 170 buildings, whose assessed value is \$20,000,000. These new buildings are larger than the old, and the widening of the streets has eliminated 700 building lots. It is expected that when the reconstruction within the burned district is complete, there will be less than 800 buildings of which the assessed value will be fully \$25,000,000."

"It is therefore quite reasonable to suppose that the assessed value of the reconstructed San Francisco will at least be as large at the time of the catastrophe."

Skyscrapers Are Safe. In his recommendations to the country on fireproof buildings, Professor Soule declares that the high, steel frame office buildings, properly braced, will safely endure an earthquake of even greater severity than that in San Francisco.

"This kind of building has proved its worth and reliability," says Professor Soule, "and has come to stay. It has been tried and has not been found wanting. Minor improvements will produce a perfect structure."

Concrete and reinforced concrete structures are given a high place in the estimation of the experts who believe that they are as well adapted to withstand earthquake or fire as any other type of building.

"Unfortunately for San Francisco," says Professor Soule, "there were very few structures of concrete or reinforced concrete in the city at the time of her great trial, but these few behaved well, during both the earthquake and the resulting fire."

"At present the sentiment is to limit them to a height of six or eight stories, on account of their experimental character. It is agreed that columns should be reinforced with steel, and braced together wherever possible."

Captain Sewell also comes out in favor of the steel-frame building thoroughly braced as the best type to endure earthquake and fire.

"For very tall buildings," says Captain Sewell, "the best type of construction is undoubtedly a steel frame."

"For buildings of moderate height, say up to 125 feet, as an extreme limit, reinforced concrete alone can undoubtedly be so designed as to give very good results when subjected to either earthquake or fire."

Brick and Concrete. In order to thoroughly protect the steel-frame buildings against earthquake or fire, Captain Sewell believes that all columns should be covered, either with four inches of brickwork, laid in Portland cement mortar and with all the interior spaces filled with concrete, or else they should be enclosed in an expanded metal basket and the entire interior filled with concrete, so that the minimum thickness of concrete shall not, in any case, be less than four inches.

"The results at Baltimore and San Francisco," continues Captain Sewell, "did not, by any means, indicate that either hollow tiles or concrete is altogether a failure or altogether a success. Both fires indicated very clearly that commercial methods of applying both materials are inadequate; both also indicated very clearly that successful results can be attained with both materials."

"A conflagration never yields reliable comparative results, but from such comparative results as are available, I think there is no question that the best fire-resisting material available at the present time is the right kind of burned clay. Some commercial hollow tile work is made of good material, but as a rule, that is the only good thing that can be said about it. As for concrete, there can be no question that good clinker concrete, made of well burned clinker, Portland cement and sand, is a very efficient fire-resisting material. It is better than anything except the better types of burned clay products, but the form in which clinker concrete is commercially applied is, on the whole, no better than the form in which concrete is applied; in fact it is not certain that it may not be worse."

"While there is no doubt that commercial standards of fireproofing are dangerously inadequate, the greatest trouble of all is the fact that so little attention is paid to protecting the exterior openings in a building. Even a very efficient type of fire-shutter would probably have saved some of the buildings in San Francisco, which were as a matter of fact, burned out. A light metal shutter, combined with a window sprinkler, would probably resist quite a fierce fire for a long time."

How to Build Right. "The protection of exterior openings is by all odds the most important constructive problem involved in the efforts to make cities proof against conflagration; and it seems probable that, at the present time, adequate protection of windows and doors is available at a reasonable cost. In my judgment, windows protected in the following way, even without sprinklers, might keep the fire out, even though the building were shut up and abandoned. Protect the outer opening with some form of rolling steel shutter, or preferably, with a shutter composed of sheets of steel sliding in very deep rebates in the walls."

"Make the windows entirely of wire-glass in sheet-metal, or metal covered with sheet metal, or metal covered with sheet metal. Clear wire-glass can be used if desired. On the inside of the window use a sliding shutter, either of wood, covered with sheet metal, or else of sheet metal."

"Under a fairly bad exposure fire, it is probable that the outer shutters would be so damaged that they would have to be removed. In a conflagration, it is probable that they would be warped to such an extent as to not let in, and possibly in many cases they would be broken and damaged the windows themselves, so that they also might have to be renewed, at least so far as the sash are concerned. But it is very doubtful if any conflagration would ever get through the window entirely, much less through the outer shutters. The damage to the window protection in any case would be a very small matter compared with the total destruction of the contents of the building, together with a damage of from 65 to 80 per cent. to the building itself."

"San Francisco and Baltimore both have demonstrated that all the exterior openings of even fireproof buildings need protection. It would seem that the time has arrived when building ordinances should require it."

Where the Danger Lies. On the same general subject of fire protection, Professor Frank Soule says: "Of a building's entire fire damage, the loss from fire within the building is estimated, on the average, at 40 per cent., the other 60 per cent. of the risk being from fires exterior to the building. This risk for interior fires should be reduced to a minimum by ample provision for fire prevention. When doors have proved to be dangerous and objectionable, but in some instances, non-combustible wood may be used for them and for the interior trim, as, for example, when the heat could never be very great. Metal trim, doors, windows, sash and casings, together with plate glass, or better, wire-glass, may confine a fire to a single room, preventing a general combustion."

"Adequate fire extinguishing apparatus—such as fire-hose, always connected with good water pressure, wells and automatic pumps, and tanks in the basement, or filled tanks upon the roof, with pipe connections was lacking in nearly all of San Francisco's buildings, even in those of the highest class."

In the case of the California Electric Company's buildings, the standpipes with attached hose, the well pump and tank in the basement, and the roof tank, together with the metal sash and the wired-glass windows, saving the value of such a private system, proved that property from the heat fire around it. As this building was not fireproof, the value of the fire extinguishing systems can be well understood, and had all of our large establishments been equally well equipped, the conflagration would have been quickly checked, and a vast amount of property saved."

"While the danger from exterior fires to a given building is ordinarily estimated as 60 per cent., it practically becomes 100 per cent., of course, in case of a great conflagration. In San Francisco, little protection from exterior fires had been adopted. The few fire metal shutters, or steel roller shutters, and those were usually of imperfect design, that proved unsatisfactory when tested. The openings in walls were fatal points of weakness in all of the great buildings. Wire-glass windows, though few in number, behaved well, but wooden, instead of metal sashes, were great sources of fiery conflagration. Metal covering over wooden doors and window frames was generally inefficient."

Walls for Elevator Shafts. "San Francisco's experience recommends that wells and elevator shafts should be guarded by brick or reinforced concrete walls, fitted with double metal rolling doors, bolted to the walls to allow for expansion, or with automatic sliding doors and wire-glass partitions. There was little or no provision for cutting off the draft of air that will ascend through such a shaft during a fire, and great destruction resulted in consequence."

The importance and value of real protection will be appreciated when it is stated that a third-class building, with such complete fire-prevention plant, is insured for less than a first-class one not having it. This lesson is one that should be taught to the capitalist owners by their architects and engineers. Moreover, all parts of an establishment should be equally protected, for the fire may begin anywhere."

"Concrete floors with metallic mesh reinforcement are strongly recommended for strength and fireproof character."

"Double windows of wire-glass in hollow metallic frames are recommended, or where such material would be objectionable by cutting off the view, double plate glass is considered next best."

"Interior doors should be of metal, or at any rate, metal covered, in fireproof buildings, and the light for corridors and halls should come through wire-glass."

"As the installation of wire-glass, metallic rolling shutters and metal metal shutters, or steel roller shutters, and those were usually of imperfect design, that proved unsatisfactory when tested. The openings in walls were fatal points of weakness in all of the great buildings. Wire-glass windows, though few in number, behaved well, but wooden, instead of metal sashes, were great sources of fiery conflagration. Metal covering over wooden doors and window frames was generally inefficient."

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## \$8 Child's Reefer, \$5

While it is true that the weather has interfered with this department, we rarely cut prices as we do on this occasion. We doubt if such garments, with such style, have ever been shown by any Richmond house. They are all of plaid, and richly trimmed. Just the thing for cool evenings.

# Here Are Thirty Matchless Bargains Until Sold

\$1.50 Ladies' Panama Sailors, several shapes. Special, 98c.

25c Corset Covers, trimmed in Hamburg; some in lace, 10c. Only two to customer.

\$3.25 Walking Hats, in all shades, \$1.98.

\$1.75 Long Brown and Tan Lisle Gloves, musquetaire. Special, \$1.39 pair.

50c Lisle Glove, 2 clasp, special value, white and black, tan and gray. Special, 25c.

40-inch White Muslin, 17c value. Special, 12 1-2c yard.

Silk Taffeta Ribbon, all colors; sell everywhere 12 1-2c yard. Special, 7 1-2c.

50c Belt Buckles, the prettiest designs you ever saw, 25c.

25c box Tourist Ruching, 6 yards to piece, 15c.

50c Leather Belts, all new wanted styles of the season, 25c.

Men's 50c Madras and Percalé Shirts, 39c.

25c Back and Side Combs, great wonder, 5c.

10c Turnover Embroidered Collars. Special, 3c.

75c Boys' Wash Suits, sizes 3 to 8. Special, 48c.

50c Boys' Wash Suits, sizes 3 to 8. Special, 29c.

Men's and Boys' Shield Bows. Special, 8c.

15c Turkish Towels, full size, 10c.

25c Men's Four-in-Hand Ties, 17c.

Antiseptic Absorbent Draper Cloth, 69c; piece of 10 yards.

12 1-2c pure linen hand-made Torchon Lace, 7c yard.

Ladies' White Aprons, 19c value, 10c.

Boys' \$3.50 Worsted Double-Breasted Suit, \$1.98.

37 1-2c Corset Cover, trimmed in Val. lace inserting, 17c.

Ladies' Red Cross Shoes, all shapes and styles known for comfort; \$4.00 all over the world. Our price, \$2.75.

\$1.25 White Bed Spreads, full size. Special, 93c.

17c Ladies' Gauze Ribbed Shirts, tape neck and sleeves, 10c.

25c Infants' Muslin Caps. Special, 14c.

Women's \$12.50 Tailor-made Suits, this season's styles, \$5.

White Cannon Cloth Skirts, sold for \$2. Special, 98c.

\$10 Mohair Suits, blue and brown, \$4.48.

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## Look to Your Shoe Wants Now!

Look ahead, even anticipate your needs, for with the cry everywhere in the country of higher prices or cheaper leather, you will do well to buy your Shoes now while the opportunity is offered. Our entire stock of high-grade Shoes (we never bought cheap Shoes) must be sold, as we are closing out this department to make room for yard goods, and so many of our friends have asked us every day to hurry up. We are just as anxious as you are to put them in. If you want to save money, buy your Shoes at this chance. If you do not need them now, put them away until you do need them.

All \$4.00 Shoes for men, women and children, \$1.98.

All \$3.50 Shoes for men, women and children, \$2.50.

All \$2.00 Children's Shoes go for \$1.05.

All \$4.00 Shoes for men, women and children, \$1.98.

All \$3.50 Shoes for men, women and children, \$2.50.

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All \$4.00 Shoes for men, women and children, \$1.98.

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## Special Corset Sale

\$1.00 Thompson Glove-Fitting, 75c

It's made according to your own ideas, and embodies many features usually found in any high grade of \$2.00 to \$3.00 corset. The material is fine white coutil; now, modern hips, some with hose supporters, at 75c.

Great Hosiery Sale

To purchase Hosiery here to-morrow will mean a great saving. We will place on sale Monday morning 200 dozen Black Gaiters or Lisle Thread Drop-Situated Hose, full line of lace boots, at 12 1-2c pair. (Only four pair to customer.)

Young Men's Suit, \$5

Wonder of Value!—A \$10.00 Young Men's Suit, in new shades of gray, dark and light, double and single-breasted, long pants, with side straps, made in very best manner, sizes 33 and 34, to fit small men; the price, \$5.00.

Buy 75c Shirts here To-Morrow at 39c

We closed out from a well-known manufacturer all his stock on hand, such as high traveling men's samples. They are all small quantities of each pattern, but plenty of your size to select from. In all there are 500 Shirts, including dark and light patterns. Every one will be buying a 75c Shirt for 39c.

Ladies' Wrappers

Ladies' Lawn Wrappers, in neat, pretty washable designs, trimmed with Swiss inserting and edge, tight fitting, tucked back, with belt full skirt, finished with flounce, at \$1.50.

Ladies' Percale and Lawn Wrappers, Mended and made, in a variety of neat, pretty designs, yoke back and front, with deep ruffle around skirt, \$1.00.

One lot of Ladies' Lawn Wrappers, in good, washable colors, pink and blue, nicely made, regular \$1.25 values; special at 60c.

## We Win with Women's Wearables

No competition can or will match these prices. Wash Suits, Spring Suits, Wash Skirts and Dress Skirts all alike. We will lead in low prices.

Summer Suits

Newest Tan Suit, in Eton, made Gibson effect, skirt box plaited, for \$10.00.

Jumper Suits, in white and blue, made of P. K., piped with white and trimmed with small pearl buttons, for \$13.00.

White, Lavender, Blue, Pink and Tan, Eton effect, elbow sleeves, skirt plaited, for \$6.50.

Dark Gray and Blue Gingham Suit, waist tucked back and front, with skirt tucked, for \$2.75.

Thin White Dresses, made Princess effect of embroidery front and back, with fine tucks, elbow sleeves, skirt tucked around hip with deep flounce, with large tucks flaring gracefully around bottom; was \$10.00, now \$7.00.

Thin White Dress, waist of tucks and Val, made low neck, elbow sleeve, skirt with tucks, for \$7.00.

Thin Dresses, made Jumper style, piped with white, skirt tucked, for \$6.50.

89c

For Muslin Underwear

worth \$1.25 and \$1.50. Promptly at 9 o'clock to-morrow morning we will place on sale about 800 pieces of Muslin Underwear, such as Gowns, Chemises, Skirts, Corset Covers and Drawers. They are all made in the very best manner. When you examine the garment you will see the making alone is worth the price. Each piece is neatly trimmed either with good Hamburg, Swiss or Torchon. This is positively the greatest Underwear sale that has ever taken place in Richmond at 98c.

Beauty and Novelty in Men's Clothes

Our styles this season are more artistic and the materials the handsomest ever shown. The shoulders of coats follow the shoulder curves of the wearer. The shape of trousers; in fact, the whole suit will appear favorable to you. The unusual thing you will appreciate—the price. Let us prove to you we will.

Best Suits, in style, wear and low prices, \$10.00 to \$25.00.

All Men's Straw Hats at special prices.

## Remember the Millinery Sale--\$8 and \$10 Trimmed Hats, \$3.98

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